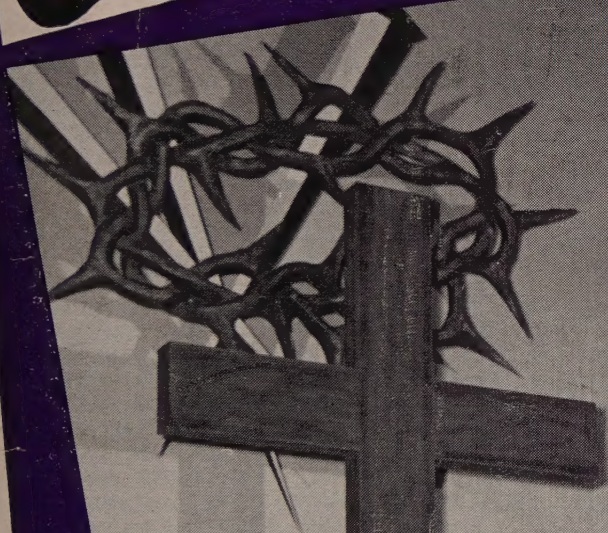


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Concern



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p. 6

Cover Photo

Although November is hardly here, it's time to think about Christmas and particularly about Watchnight. This issue of CONCERN provides helps for Watchnight, mainly suggestions for a service of dedication and communion. The cover is just a reminder of the seriousness of the death of Jesus, which should say something to all Christians about the attitudes in which we approach Christmas and the new year.

Forum

CARAVANS IN ANGOLA

Sirs:

For the last four weeks we have been making trips to some of the larger villages for two days of study, worship and recreation with youth. The leaders are two missionaries and three African youth from our Quessua group. Each week we have a different combination, which means we help the villages but also help more of our youth develop leadership abilities. This is our version of the American caravan program.

Come with us on a trip to Quifucus-sa. With luck we'll drive the 40 miles in about two hours. Five of us besides you: Helen, Joao, Maria, Andre, and I. For lunch the pastor's wife prepares fungi with chicken gravy. You'll have to get accustomed to fungi—a mush made of the dried, pounded root of the mandioc plant. For dessert we have bread and bananas.

At 1:30 we begin with crafts. Since there are 125 children (ages 8 to 18) and only 20 scissors, the first lesson is on the meaning of sharing. It is the first time that many of them have used crayons or scissors. Then we learn new songs and games, then divide into groups on evangelism, recreation, community service, and an officers group.

The night meeting is for everyone, and people come from miles around to see the colored slides and listen to the phonograph. It will be the first time that many of them have seen a "magic lantern." We begin with pictures of Angola, and then the pastor explains

the slides that depict Bible stories.

Sunday morning . . . Joao and Andre preach, Maria reads the scripture. Helen plays the accordion, and I pray. Afterwards we have another meeting with the youth. Then dinner of soup, fungi, gravy and goat meat. Another session of crafts, a closing service with the youth; and before you know it it's time to say "adeus" and head for home.

Marion Way, Angola, Africa

WHA' HAPPEN?

Sirs:

I have been missing the feature "The Front Page" and "Thinking Out the News." These features help keep young people "in the know" as to what is going on in our country and in the world. I think it is important to keep them up. What happened to them? I also enjoy Clarice Bowman's column. While it is important to know what other MYFs are doing, I don't think a whole issue should be devoted to them without these other interesting features.

Nancy Troendly, Calif

—THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF METHODIST YOUTH SUGGESTED THAT "THE FRONT PAGE" MIGHT BE DROPPED SINCE MOST READERS GOT THAT INFORMATION IN OTHER PAPERS. SO FAR, COMPLAINTS HAVE BEEN FEW. CLAUD NELSON HAS WRITTEN FOR CONCERN SINCE THE FIRST ISSUE OF THE PAPER AND ANOTHER "THINKING OUT THE NEWS" COLUMN IS IN THIS ISSUE.

Concern

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Missions call for 420 workers

The Methodist Board of Missions has just issued a tremendous call for 420 new missionaries to fill the 1954-55 needs for service outside the United States. Of special interest is the call for 50 A-3's and 17 K-3's.

Greatest number of workers—191—are needed for educational work in Africa, East Asia, India and Pakistan, Southeast Asia, Latin America. Second on the list numerically are 129 religious and social workers for the same areas, with jobs ranging from hotel management in Sarawak, Borneo, to doctor work in a large city of India.

There are openings for 21 doctors, 46 nurses and two dentists; for eight agriculturists, three building and engineering specialists, 19 business managers or secretaries. The one separate category of "special" is for a printer for a mission press in Africa.

Candidates should be college graduates with some special study and at least a year of successful experience. After the candidate is accepted the Board of Missions provides an academic year of specialized training. Age should be 23-35 at time of sailing. Married couples are considered for a first term of five years in most cases. Unmarried candidates may enlist for regular terms or short terms of three years.

More Threes Wanted

Next August a new crop of three-year missionaries will sail for Africa, and personnel workers are now looking for 50 outstanding youth who will begin A-3 training begins June 26, 1954. Next fall a group of 17 young people will sail for Korea to give three years of service.

Korea needs ten women and seven men for teaching and youth work in high schools and colleges, for relief and social service and for religious work with youth. Specialities could include medicine, music, physical education, English and commercial subjects. Main requirement for the K-3's: they must be capable in meeting the needs of a war-devastated country.

Applicants for three year service must be unmarried, between the ages of 21 and 28, graduates of accredited

NEWS

colleges. All mission candidates must be people of genuine Christian experience with a desire to serve and a faith they are eager to share. All missionaries receive salaries, housing, medical care, participation in the board's pension fund, and travel expenses to and from the field.

Persons interested in applying should write very soon to Dr. M. O. Williams, Jr., or Miss J. Marguerite Twinem, Board of Missions, 150 Fifth Ave., New York 11, N. Y.

Boards asked to speak on UMT

Methodist bishops and general agencies of the church are being urged to take a stand against Universal Military Training before Congress meets in January.

The request for action comes from the Interboard Committee on Missionary Education. At the close of its annual meeting in Nashville October 29, the committee adopted a resolution citing "the imminent possibility of the passage of an Universal Military Training Act when the 84th Congress convenes in January." The resolution called attention to "action of the 1952 General Conference which reaffirms the opposition of the church to any system of peacetime universal military training."

Naming the Council of Bishops and the church's general boards of education, missions, evangelism, world peace, and the interboard staff on youth and student work, the committee urged "these groups to plan ways and means of promoting an immediate education and action program to implement the General Conference resolution."

Bishop J. W. E. Bowen of Atlanta was requested to present the resolution to the Council of Bishops when it meets December 8.

"We must alert the whole church and let Congress know our feelings, or universal military training will be a fact before we realize it," George A. Warner, Los Angeles district superintendent, told the committee.

"More and more the general attitude

of the public seems to be military-minded," he said. "If we are not careful we will follow in the steps of Germany, Italy, Japan and other countries that became police states when the mind and mood of the people were conditioned to accept war as the only solution to international problems."

Visiting youth become Christians

Conversion to the Christian faith was the climax of a six month visit to the United States and Hawaii for the outstanding boy and girl 4-H Club member of Japan.

Rev. C. P. Goto, minister of Henry Parker Memorial Methodist Church in Kaneohe, island of Oahu, Hawaii, baptized Chiyoko Eto and Toshio Fukui before they returned to Japan. Selected as the first Japanese participants under the International Farm Youth Exchange program, the two youth were both brought up as Buddhists.

The contest they entered involved some 600,000 members of 28,000 4-H clubs. Now covering 32 countries, the project in international understanding and good will emphasizes rural people at the family level. Chiyoko Eto lived and worked on two farms in Virginia and Colorado, and Toshio Fukui in Maryland and Oregon. In Hawaii they were assigned to various farms on Oahu and Maui.

Mr. Goto, the Methodist minister who officiated at the baptism, says the students were handicapped by language barriers in their first four months on the mainland but through "the kindness of Christian people" came to un-

derstand "the Lord and his Kingdom." By the time they arrived in Hawaii "they had reached the point when they wanted to go home with the new faith and new conviction to make their stay in the United States the memorable event of their lives." The youth stayed in the Methodist parsonage for a while, attended church services, and requested baptism.

U.S. contributes to Korean relief

The U. S. government has made its first contribution of \$15 million to the 1954 program of the United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency (UNKRA), and will contribute some \$50 million of the total \$130 million the U. N. will spend for Korean reconstruction and rehabilitation this year.

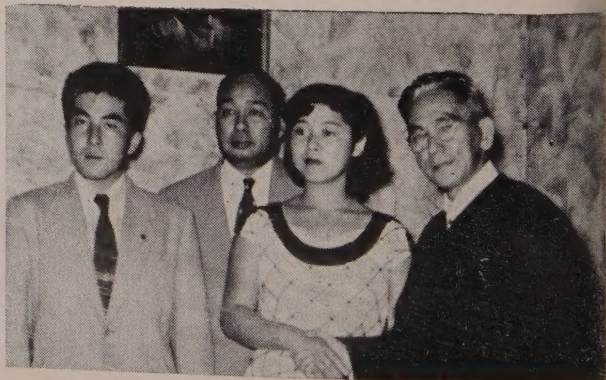
The 1954 program ends in June, and is a continuation of a \$70 million program ended last June.

Money is used to import machinery and equipment, to build plans and buildings, for power restoration, agriculture, forestry and fisheries, health sanitation and welfare, technical assistance projects and rural services. Some \$5 million will be spent for housing and \$3.3 million for education.

MPH has biggest year

When Methodism's Board of Publications met in Chicago October 28, it heard reports that the Methodist Publishing House broke all records in doing a total business of \$17,669,309 during this fiscal year, an increase over last year of some \$2 million. The board appropriated \$500,000 for retired ministers of Methodism.

Two new Methodist youth are Toshio Fukui and Chiyoko Eto, outstanding 4-H Club leaders who were baptized as a result of a visit to the U. S. and Hawaii. With them are agricultural agent Y. Baron Goto and Methodist pastor C. P. Goto of Hawaii.



What about Warren?

everybody's afraid of Earl Warren! That was the conclusion suggested by our columnist when he read comments by a leading conservative and a leading liberal magazine on Warren's appointment as chief justice of the Supreme Court.

Writing in *Newsweek*, the once New



Nelson

Deal-ish but now carefully conservative Raymond Moley, agreeing with the rather common impression that Warren is something of a "liberal," expressed the fear that Warren will side with the "opportunists" or "pragmatists" of the Court. This school of thought, he says, since the turn of the century has been struggling to gain upper hand over those on the Court "move in the light of tradition, forming a presumption of truth in and respected custom."

The liberal magazine thought otherwise. Warren, it pointed out, has done several things that make him appear anything but liberal. He upheld the oath of a loyalty oath for California government employees (except school-teachers and university professors); fought a pardon for labor hero James C. Mooney; championed states rights in the Tidelands Oil dispute; and was a leader in the wartime discrimination and expropriation of property against West Coast Japanese and Nisei.

Curiously enough, another liberal magazine some months earlier ran an article stating that Warren, although usually consistent in liberalism, had usually been inclined to be as liberal as "politics" would allow.)

Actually, it is not too easy to predict what a skillful politician like Warren may do when he becomes at least

theoretically separated from politics. Justice Black was widely accused as a former Ku-Klux-Klaner—but no Court member has been more favorable to the rights of minority groups than he.

This columnist to an extent shares

Concern Feature

Moley's fear of "pragmatism" or the tendency to act as a legislator rather than a

judge, of which Black and others have seemed guilty at times.

But Moley puts it rather too one-sidedly he says: "for those who believe in some order and purposes in the Universe—and that means most Americans regardless of sect—there must be a presumption of truth in custom."

This probably is true. But there also must be, in these same people who believe the Universe has a purpose, a deep belief in justice and in fair play regardless of custom. Justice Black and Douglas certainly have this belief, and there are signs that Warren, despite his wartime attitude toward the West Coast Japanese, has it too. If he does, this quality, in combination with his native caution and ability in "workable compromise" may outweigh his lack of legal experience and help to make him a valuable Chief Justice.

—BY CLAUD NELSON, JR.

What's doing

'Emphasis on you'

There's a movement gathering momentum in The Methodist Church! Yes, you guessed it, it's the Youth Emphasis! Did you say, "How do you know it's a movement?" "How do you know its gaining momentum?" I'll tell you how we know . . . Not because 75,000 copies of the new *Handbook of The Methodist Youth Fellowship* have been sold in five months or 100,000

copies of the *Program Area Guides*. It's not because 25,000 Youth Emphasis Packets have been distributed by the district superintendents across the United States. It's not because articles have been written and hundreds of thousand of leaflets have been printed.

No, that's not the reason we know that the Youth Emphasis is *really* a movement among youth people and *really* gathering momentum. How do you measure a movement? By what it does . . . by the signs of life it shows . . . by what it accomplishes.

There was new enthusiasm and strength among the youth of California as they gathered



Ewing

for the largest series of rallies in the history of the state. We find youth and adult leaders in Illinois meeting to plan for training of adult leaders for every local church in the conference. We see the youth of Iowa visiting in every local church in the conference in a single week to help youth and adults find ways to strengthen their MYF. We find the youth of Oregon laying plans for work in the year ahead . . . the youth of Alabama, Mississippi, North Carolina, Massachusetts and many other states gathering to renew their declaration of faith in God and to discover how best to do His will.

We see the young people in a Wisconsin church form a prayer cell and watch that cell divide and grow until five groups are seeking God's will and finding strength to live by it. We see youth in every state of the union aroused with a new concern for the young people who do not have a vital faith and a part in the fellowship of the church. We see parents and teachers of youth seeking with new earnestness to find better ways of working with young people. We see youth giving attention to solving the alcohol problem and seriously facing the implications of Christian brotherhood.

Yes, across this nation the Youth Emphasis is a movement that is truly gaining momentum!

What part are you and your buddies

VIEWS

having in this movement? That's a question which you will have to answer. Responsibility for the Christian leadership rests on you. In a very real way the emphasis is on YOU! You can help to deepen the faith of the youth and adults by the life you live, the discussions you plan, the projects you help to carry through. YOU can win youth to Christ by the daily witness of your life, by the evangelistic plan which you help your MYF to carry through, by your friendly, wholesome concern for the young people you associate with at school, at work, or in leisure time. YOU can lift the level of your MYF by shouldering your responsibility, by helping to plan carefully for meetings in the weeks ahead by working with the counselor and the teachers as they seek to help in the work of the MYF.

But let's not overlook an important fact: you're not alone in this important work. In seeking to discover the will of God and live by it you are working with God and He is working through you. On New Year's Eve MYF groups across America will be joining in Watchnight services of dedication and communion. Watchnight has always been a significant occasion in the MYF.

In these services you, your friends, your parents and the teachers and counselors of your MYF will join with the whole church "family" to ask God's blessing and guidance in this important movement . . . in this important mission during the new year.

As we bow together in our churches across these 48 states, let us be joined in a fellowship of prayer . . . that youth might be quickened with new responsibility to make God known wherever they go . . . that all people may have a renewed and deepened faith in God . . . that adult friends of youth might have a new concern and new insights into ways of working with youth . . . that youth and adults of every land might discover the will of God and live by it.

—BY HAROLD W. EWING

Loosing, not losing...!

Those other three youth in America yet connected with any church or religious organization — yes, we feel an appalling urgency night and day. It is not just that we who call ourselves churchmen are “losing” them:

Concern Feature they are losing — what? Seconds of lives ticked away without being linked up to some master-cause; fellowship with others in a flicking fun that harms no one and costs no hang-over price — we can think of many such values of belonging to a church youth organization. But there's something deeper . . .

Whatever we give our minutes and days to, our dreams and our energies find sinews to—for that we are “losing” our lives. What did you “lay down your life for” last week . . . or the past week? Jesus gave his *daily* life. We do so for one thing or another.

We go out to win others. Are we, with our names on the roll, fully “con”? We try to reach unreached. Have we reached *reached*? Those who come, even take part—are they being reached in the deep centers where they live, with powerful Christian convictions, fibered ideals that will stand firm amidst the pressures? Getting people to meetings is hardly a start. Giving the kind of meetings that “capture imagination” and “cultivate interest” is better (from Jewell Jones' discussion group, N. C. Conference of adult workers). But the question is, do we all in meetings *take the initiative* — over beyond talking, even saying, *about* great Christian ideas, to a point of *letting them take hold of*

First, we must *reach* for these greater ideas: actually think. That can't. Discussions can help clear away mental rubbish until big ideas can shine forth. Are our weekly meeting leaders, not just we leading them? Are we merely answering some questions, where need be, questioning some of

the answers that have proved false?

The Mighty God is at work! We feel the pulsing throb of the engines of the universe, even in the heart-beat of our bodies. But He is more power; He is *love*. (What snarls of belief people get into when they forget that — twisted, contorted ideas. Keep your finger right there at the point of love, and



Miss Bowman

you'll probably discover answers to problems that have perplexed you). But man is stubbornly self-interested, wilful. He *sins*: that is, chooses (because he is created with choice-power) to be unresponsive to God and unloving to his fellows. Here, where man reaches from his selfhood to seek God's help, redemptive miracles begin. Life is changed. And strangely, man finds that when he strives to work with God in causes motivated by love, he builds better than he knows. Results are vaster than could have come in his own strength. “My Father worketh; I work.”

Thus we are cut loose, freed, from chains. “Loose him and let him go!” was said in Scriptures, of one who had been bound. What if thousands of youth and adult leaders were *loosed*—from old defeatism, fear, outworn patterns of thinking and doing? What if meeting cut *loose* from ordinariness, part-reading and such, and launched youth on Big Ideas, and outlandish, amazing projects of service action in every town, then world?

—There'd be differences in living. Like that conference president not being too busy with administrative offices to lead a crusade right in the hometown high school against cheating. Like the youth in Mecklenburg

County retreat who got going in a singing crusade. Like those youth who went out to seek, instead of "group-approval" in their gang as formerly, "God-approval." (Roderick Dail, N. C. Conference Emphasis chairman) Like the ones who figured they'd visit others other times than in witness missions, to show them they *really* cared . . .

Adult workers are cutting loose these days, from old "I can't" attitudes; ministers, parents are rising . . . There are great-souled adults getting ready to move forward with youth with a shout and a song. "The Mighty God is loose in the world" said Bishop Broomfield one time. And workmen are joining Him. In this crucial mid-century, with world-needs so vast, evil forces so rampant . . . we win youth, in order that they may be *loosed* for greatness and for God!

—BY CLARICE M. BOWMAN

Books of Concern

Apostles of Discord

One of fall's most talked-about books is one that deserves the careful attention of every person concerned about the several small groups that are continually criticizing Protestant churches or else are trying to shape churches according to their own ends. The book is *Apostles of Discord*, "A study of organized bigotry and disruption on the fringes of Protestantism," written by Ralph Lord Roy.

Of interest to CONCERN's readers is chapter 13, which deals with "the struggle within Methodism," and the statements are so well documented that readers will have difficulty challenging any part of the chapter. Most of the discussion centers around the Methodist Federation for Social action, and young Methodists should read the brief and fair account of the Federation's history, continuing down to former executive secretary McMichael's testimony before the House committee on un-American activities this summer.

Also discussed briefly, and with facts guaranteed to raise eyebrows, are the Circuit Riders, Inc., "Bob" Shuler, Texan Rembert Gilbert Smith, and Blake Craft, editor of *One Methodist Voice*.

Current discussions about pink fringes and self-appointed vigilantes should be founded on the kind of thoughtful material presented in this book. Author Ralph Lord Roy is a Methodist minister in Swanton, Vermont, who did most of the research while studying for a doctorate at a Union seminary.

Apostles of Discord is published by Beacon Press of Boston, \$3.75 a copy.

The Church and Social Responsibility

A book on the positive side comes along to say that Christian salvation includes the social order, and that the Christian church cannot close its eyes to conditions around it. The book is *The Church and Social Responsibility*, edited by J. Richard Spann and published by Abingdon-Cokesbury.

Fifteen writers use the teachings of Jesus to indicate how the church can deal with modern world problems. Parts of the book will be tough reading for youth, but Christian citizenship chairman and campus social action chairman should go through it. It is a very good resource for campus forum groups.

Order copies at \$2.75 from the nearest Methodist Publishing House.



—Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith

influence ated in Look

magazine to look for is *Look*, the September 17 issue which is now on news stands.

The magazine has two articles on Communism and the Protestant clergy, one by Senator McCarthy's one-time chief investigator, J. B. Matthews, and another by Methodist Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam. Matthews' article is another effort in his campaign to prove that the "largest single group supporting the Communist apparatus in the United States today is composed of Protestant clergymen."

The rebuttal to that charge comes from Bishop Oxnam, claiming that Matthews' statements are not reliable and are not supported by adequate evidence. Oxnam's title: "The Real Dupes of the Red Hunts Are on Congressional Committees."

Union Theological Seminary Professor Reinhold Niebuhr has a comment on both articles in the same issue of *Look*.

Church youth try old rumor game

Recreation books have often suggested an old game of letting a rumor grow. The leader whispers a statement to someone, and that statement is passed around the circle and the resulting difference compared with the original—usually with far-fetched results.

This summer youth in the Presbyterian Church, U.S., had a "Rumor Clinic" at their evening meetings, using as resource a filmstrip of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. The technique is to show the filmstrip to a reporter who describes each picture to another reporter who passes the word along through a sixth. A group usually amazed with the difference between the reports and thus has a first-hand demonstration of the way rumors develop.

Presbyterian Youth suggests that the demonstration be followed by a discussion of the dangerous nature of rumors, specifically on what the Bible and Christianity have to say about the problem.

Groups interested in this lively program starter may borrow the filmstrip



"Rumor Clinic" without charge or may purchase a copy for 50 cents from the nearest regional office of the Anti-Defamation League, or from the Southern office at 11 Pryor Street, S. W., Atlanta, Ga.

Brother Lawrence calendar is printed

A new kind of religious calendar has been printed for 1954, illustrated in beautiful, soft colors and built around inspirational teachings and weekly prayer phrases from the well-known classic, "The Practice of the Presence of God," by Brother Lawrence.

Single copies of the calendar are available for 50 cents plus five cents mailing charge, and discounts are given for order of more than 50.

Order from the Kingwood Community, Frenchtown, New Jersey.

A 'how to' article for speechmakers

Youth and adults who are called upon for speeches—and who isn't these days?—can get real help for making their oratory effective just for the price of a postcard.

Because public address is one of the most effective ways in which churchmen influence people, Methodist Information is reprinting a *Look* magazine article by Grove Patterson on "How To Make a Speech."

Mr. Patterson is an experienced newspaperman, editor-in-chief of the *Toledo Blade* and an ardent Methodist layman. His five simple rules for speaking will be helpful to youth, laymen and women, and even to the minister who considers himself already an expert.

For your free copy write the nearest office of Methodist Information: 150 Fifth Ave., New York 11; 740 Rush St., Chicago 11; or Box 871, Nashville 2, Tenn.

And hearing Mr. Patterson in one of his popular after-dinner speeches or even reading this article will prove that occasionally an editor knows something about the "how to" of speaking.

1953 Watchnight Worship Service

PRELUDE: "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God," No. 67 in *The Methodist Hymnal*.

INVOCATION: O God, thou who art our strength and refuge, we ask thy blessing upon us as we meet to worship thee. We know that thou art amongst us. Make us aware of thy presence and make us sensitive to the leading of thy Spirit. Hear now, O Lord, as we thy children pray from our hearts for strength to live these days . . . (*silent prayer*). In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

HYMN: "O God, Our Help in Ages Past," No. 533 in *The Methodist Hymnal*.

STATEMENT (*by the leader*): December 31 of any year brings forth both joy and sadness to all people who pause for the calendar change. What we mark as "The End" and "The Beginning" is only a brief moment chosen arbitrarily from among the multitudes of moments of which our lives are made. With the very mention of the End we call to mind the errors and misfortunes of the past, but with the Beginning comes hope, anticipation of joys that may yet be ours.

As Christians, we face 1954 with strange feelings. We cannot be at ease so long as the world faces tremendous problems. At home a pressurized, mechanized society has created nervousness and tensions of living. Elsewhere, almost a billion people never know for sure that they will have enough food to eat. And all the while, on the center stage of the world, gigantic movements compete for the allegiance of men. The stockpiling of horrible atomic bombs and the race to create still more horrible hydrogen bombs make us realize how terrible tomorrow might be. We belong to an uncertain generation.

So, on December 31, 1953, before the first day of a new year, we come together as Christians to worship the Lord, our Maker, in whom is our hope.

The confusions and tensions of today's world bring us to our knees before God. We confess that we are part of all that is wrong; we affirm our faith in the power and purposes and love of the Heavenly Father; we give thanks for the hope that comes from him. Here and now we commit ourselves to new life.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Congregation in unison*): "Our Heavenly Father, who by thy love hast made us, and through thy love hast kept us, and in thy love wouldst make us perfect, we humbly confess that we have not loved thee with all our heart and soul and mind and strength, and that we have not loved one another as Christ has loved us. Thy life is within our souls, but our selfishness has hindered thee. We have not lived by faith. We have resisted thy Spirit. We have neglected thine inspirations. Forgive what we have been; help us to amend what we are; and in thy Spirit direct what we shall be; that thou mayest come into the full glory of thy creation, in us and in all men, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

HYMN: "Be Still, My Soul," No. 7 in *The Methodist Hymnal*.

LEADER: One great source of hope on this watch night, lies in the youth of the church. Today's youth have never known "normal" times, and the circumstances surrounding their lives have given them every reason for turning bad. Some have. Some have followed secular ways of living, sinned in flesh and spirit, selfishly sought gold or followed false gods. Some twenty million American youth do not belong to any church or synagogue. Let us remember them in our prayers.

However, American churches do include in their membership some seven million youth, and more than a million of these are in The Methodist Church. Some of them are in this church, meeting week after week in our Metho-

Highlight of the Youth Emphasis season is the traditional watchnight service for youth of the church. In 1953, our special goal is to have watchnight service in every church with all members attending as families. This year the entire church should focus its attention on young people, particularly on the challenge and opportunity to deepen, extend and improve the church's ministry to youth.

The service should be held in the church sanctuary in an atmosphere of reverence. Youth may want to sit together, because of the special emphasis on their part of the church's life.

A leader during the first part of the service may be the MYF president or some other youth, or the pastor or another adult friend of youth.

A Modern Epistle to Methodist

Youth Fellowship.

Our 1952 General Conference said, "In the face of present emergencies and pressures, it is imperative that we strengthen our program and discover more effective means of ministering to youth of this generation." So Methodism is now in the midst of a Youth Emphasis to help all youth discover the will of God and live by it. Churchmen all across the country are challenged to help strengthen the faith of youth, to win youth to Christ, and to improve the Methodist Youth Fellowship. So gladly do we recognize this to be on this watchnight occasion and charge ourselves in this quest of youth to strive to help youth in a mighty test of God.

READER: Thinking of the youth of the church, the bishops have written "A Modern Epistle to Methodist Youth," in the style that Paul might have used were he writing us today. The message for youth is one with meaning for every Christian. Hear it:

A Modern Epistle to Methodist Youth

To all Methodist youth, both those who are in Christ and in his church and those who should be won to him: Grace be unto you, and peace, from our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Youth" was written by Bishop John Wesley Lord of the Boston Area. You may desire to add to it a personal word from the bishop of your area. If so, write to your bishop soon and ask for such a statement.

This service was prepared by a special committee representing the Council of Bishops, the Youth Department of the Board of Education; the Board of Evangelism, and the National Conference of Methodist Youth. It is printed in the December issue of *Roundtable*, the December issue of *Shepherds*, as well as in this issue of *CONCERN*.

Reprints of the entire service of worship in an eight page folder for use during the service, are available for two cents a copy from Tidings, 1908 Grand Ave., Nashville 5, Tenn. Extra copies of this *CONCERN* are five cents each.

The bishops of your church thank God upon every remembrance of you and long to come to you with Christian counsel and command. We are grateful for your fellowship in the gospel and for your ministry of love and prayer to us.

You are a part of a troubled and uneasy generation. Called to serve your country in war as in peace, much has been required of you—wisdom beyond your years, skills beyond your capacities, and courage unlimited.

Many times have you been in rebellion at the stupidity of your elders, and discouraged and dismayed by their seeming inertia or indifference to critical issues. In your search for freedom, may you stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ has made you free.

We would constrain you to be merciful, and in every way to serve the necessity of others.

Be patient under the silences of God. Face the future unafraid never losing faith in the power of ultimate truth.

Do not imagine vain things, but look on life with quiet eyes. Walk in humility and strength before God.

Never cease your quest to know the mind of Christ and to appropriate the power of a full commitment to his purposes.

In state as in church, approve only the things that are excellent.

We pray that you may be sincere

and without offense, being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.

—BISHOP JOHN WESLEY LORD
for the Council of Bishops

LEADER: Let us be glad for such a message to youth. May we all—children, young people, and adults—respond to this message by joining in a responsive Litany of Dedication.

Litany of Dedication

(Leader reads the light type and the congregation reads the blacker type.)

We give thanks to thee, O God, for all thy goodness to us through the years of our lives. We give thee thanks for thy sheltering care which hast brought us to this time and place.

Make us worthy, our Father, of all thy blessings to us.

Thou hast remembered us when we have forgotten thee, followed us even when we fled from thee, and met us with forgiveness when we turned back to thee.

For all thy long suffering and the abundance of thy grace, we praise thy holy name, O Lord!

We confess before thee our failures and our sins. Forgive us what is past, and enable us to love and serve thee with all our mind and heart and soul and strength.

Forgive us that we have followed our own wills. Teach us thy will.

Teach us thy will for us as individuals, and give us strength to follow it. Teach us thy will for the church, that it may minister effectively to all thy children.

In the doing of thy will may our world find peace.

With thy call before us, we surrender our stubborn wills; we will have done with lesser things of life. Use thou our minds and hands to work thy will among men.

We dedicate ourselves to thee, that in the spirit of Jesus we may do thy work and so help advance thy kingdom on earth.

For all the youth of the world, we pray, asking thee to enfold them in thy loving care. For all the youth of the church, we pray, asking thee to lead them in the paths of Christian living. And for ourselves we pray, asking thee to show us how to help youth and all

thy children to discover thy will alive by it.

This is our purpose, O God, to know thy will and to do it. We take upon ourselves the yoke of Christ. We bind ourselves to him, that in service of thee we may find life. We are no longer our own, but thine. Our only hope is that we may do thy perfect will. Teach us thy will in all things, and we will praise thee and glorify thee forever. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING (*to be read responsively, the congregation standing*)
Paul said:

But we have this treasure in earthly vessels,
to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us.

We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed;
perplexed, but not driven to despair;

persecuted, but not forsaken;
struck down, but not destroyed;
always carrying in the body the death of Jesus.

so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies.

(II Corinthians 4:7-10)

Jesus said:

Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me, cannot be my disciple . . .

So therefore, whoever of you does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple . . .

(Luke 15:26, 27, 33)

Not every one who says to me, "Lord, Lord," shall enter the kingdom of heaven,

but he who does the will of my Father, who is in heaven.

(Matthew 7:21)

BRIEF MEDITATION

(Calling to consecration to God and his purpose)

HYMN OF CONSECRATION: "Take My Life, and Let It Be," No. 225 in *The Methodist Hymnal*.

THE COMMUNION SERVICE

(Led by the pastor or some ordained minister and following the ritual of the church)

While people are at the communion table, there should be adequate time for private prayer and commitment.

THE BENEDICTION AND DOXOLOGY

uth take part in a U. N. seminar

me 40 Iowa Methodists visited the
ed Nations last month for a semi-
they planned themselves, and in-
ed in the group were four young
le.

legates to the United Nations and
7 other leaders spoke to the semi-
and briefed participants on cur-
world problems. Among them were
Eleanor Roosevelt, Walter W. Van
of the National Council of
ches staff, Methodist mission ex-
ve James K. Matthews, and Ralph
Roy, author of *Apostles of Dis-*

ee group was divided into working
es and committees, each consider-
a particular area of concern. Main
ose of each team was to develop
rking plan for carrying ideas and
estions to the Des Moines area for
ing a new concern for world order
international goodwill.

ings happen young people

ishop Arthur J. Moore of Atlanta
ed all the leaders of his area to
ur-day planning conference to con-
the total work of the church in
gia. One of the most active mem-
of the area planning conference
the only youth present, Julie Bo-
North Georgia MYF president.
lie opened eyes of the adult lead-
with her inside view of problems
h face today. For example, "youth
y have to decide when they go
grammar school into high school
t wait until they go to college—

ee four youth who
part in the Des
es area U. N. sem-
pose with Mrs.
anor Roosevelt.
are Keith Tandy
einbeck, Iowa, Du-
Tritle of Salix,
lyn Martin of
erloo, and David
oiser of Mason

MYF in action

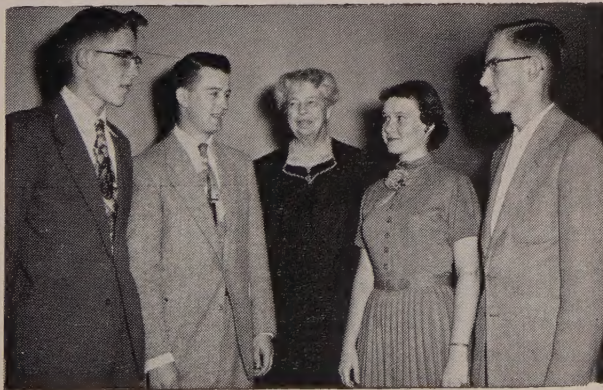
to decide to drink or not to drink." She
identified a young person as a boy or
girl between the ages of 12 and 23
who has a lot of things happening to
him or her that will determine the set
of his or her life.

"A boy or girl of 12 is going from
the sheltered, well-ordered life in
grammar school to the unsheltered life
in high school, and suddenly finds it
necessary to develop a new attitude
toward the opposite sex; to decide,
smoke or not, drink or not; if a boy,
think about the draft; if a girl, wonder
about marriage or a career or both;
and perhaps most important of all, be-
gin to use his or her mind. Then, as-
suming they live through high school,
there are more questions to answer."

And Julie told them that "through
all of these situations, the one thing a
young person wants more than any-
thing else in the world is to BELONG.
Shall it be to the church?"

What can the church do to help? She
told the area leaders that the church
can "pray for us, give us a pat on the
back, be concerned about us—even so
little as asking your newspaper boy
and girl clerk the simple question,
'Which church do you go to?'; and if
you want to evangelize youth, help to
establish student Christian councils in
high schools—that really changed
things at my high school!"

Perhaps the biggest way the MYF is
in action these days is in informing key
adults about the problems youth face
and the opportunity before the church
to minister to its youth.



Subdistrict plans seminar on alcohol

At the end of next week youth and adults from the San Antonio, Texas, subdistrict will come into San Antonio for a youth seminar on alcohol. Purpose of the seminar is to help key leaders see the problem of alcohol and to seek steps toward solving the problem.

The program of the two-day meeting is planned to present information and spiritual direction, also with time to share ideas and make plans for specific action.

MYFs within the subdistrict may send three youth and adult delegates, MYFs in other churches in the district may send two delegates, and other youth groups who are represented in the San Antonio interdenominational youth council may send one delegate.

Among resource leaders are Caradine Hooton of the Board of Temperance, physician Lester L. Keyser, San Antonio College student director Cole V. Smith, and Southwest Texas MYF director Jimmy Campbell. Mrs. H. C. Plez and Mary Alice Carr head the seminar planning.

Pacific Northwest holds big conclave

"If we speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not military might, we are as a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if we have democratic government and understand all economics and ideologies, and if we have resources as to help and feed and clothe the world, but have not military

might we are nothing.

"If we try to understand others and offer a plan for world peace, but have not military might, we gain nothing.

"When we were as a young nation we spoke as a great power. When we are older and well-armed we can convince other great powers. Now we are a military power, but for peace. Now we have an atomic bomb, but we will use it only for defense, for we are fully understood.

"So democracy, freedom, military might abide, these three, but the greatest of these is military might."

These words by Robert Mann were powerful illustration of a keynote address by College of Puget Sound Professor John Phillips, speaking at the seventh biennial conclave of the Pacific Northwest Conference MYF. The theme: "Christ or Chaos!" a theme hymn, "Once to Every Man a Nation."

Some 700 youth came to Centennial church in Spokane, Wash., for the two-day meeting, October 9-11.

Between regular sessions of the conclave, new and old conference officers met together to get acquainted and do some planning. Retiring president D. Bowen of Ellensburg, Wash., charged the new officers with their responsibilities.

Big event for Saturday evening took place in a local high school gym: international folk festival, led by Larry Bowen of Ellensburg. Highlight for Friday was a festival of song, led by Dave Seaman.

Delegates came from the entire state of Washington, and the conclave was the biggest ever held in the conference.

New officers of the Pacific Northwest Conference MYF are (back row) David Corner, Peg Hodge, Diana Burdick, Don Moller, President Don Cramer, (front row) Sherry Millard, Pat Schwartz, Ginny Mordhorst, Donna Moller, and Paul Fitzsimmons. They were elected at the conference MYF conclave.



th study book off the press

The last entrant in the field of study for the Methodist Student Movement is a 31-page volume that hasn't much publicity. It is *Changed Person Transforming Culture* by Mack Stokes, theology professor at Emory University, Georgia.

Topic of the study book is the theme of the last day of the National Methodist Student Conference to be held this Christmas at Lawrence, Kansas. Yet the book will be used by campus groups after the Lawrence conference, for it deals with the basic issue of how it transforms culture through changed personalities.

Stokes' book is different from the study books of the MSM. This is a study outline, not a prose treatment of the subject. Material is well documented, and numerous references to hard works will enable students to hang good meat around the bones of the outline. How well this is received across the country will help set a new trend in the use of study materials.

According to staff member Harvey Brown, the MSM has published the first four study books for these purposes: to give guidance to individuals who are honestly seeking the role of Christians in the Kingdom of God; to offer documented resources for panels and forums in developing the theme: "Relevance of the Christian Message to Our Contemporary World"; to advise and prepare conference personnel concerning the understanding of the through processes of the Fifth National Methodist Student Conference; and to furnish resources for campus groups sponsored by campus and Church Planning Councils.

The first three study books (16 OCTOBER CONCERN) are \$1 each, or \$2.75 for a set of three with a study guide. The new Stokes book sells for 25 cents each, which means that the complete set of study materials may be purchased for \$3.00.

Order study books only from the Department of College and University Religious Life, P. O. Box 871, Nashville 12, Tennessee.

MSM ⁱⁿ action

Liz Willis appointed student staff associate

For some time, says a recent staff statement, the Methodist Student Movement has planned to have part of its field work done by qualified recent graduates who could travel among student centers. Such a staff associate would promote the projects and program of the Methodist Student Movement, and would help local student councils in organization, program help and counseling.

Now comes the announcement that Elizabeth Willis has been appointed the first person in this new program. She began her work with the Department of College and University Religious Life on November 1, and after a brief orientation period will visit various student centers. She will give six months on a subsistence basis.

Liz Willis is from Lubbock, Texas, has a B.A. degree from McMurry College in Abilene, and M.A. from Northwestern University, and has studied at Garrett Biblical Institute and Union Theological Seminary. She has held numerous offices on all levels of the MYF and MSM.



Elizabeth Willis



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